

**Testimony Regarding Support for HB 5283 & SB 229 and  
School Construction Funds for Public Charter Schools  
March 4, 2022**

Co-Chairs Senator McCrory and Representative Sanchez and other distinguished members of the Education Committee,

My name is John Awad. I come from Bridgeport CT. and attend Bridge Academy.

I think giving Connecticut 713 million dollars for the education system is important. Governor Ned Lamont clearly cares about kids and our future if he is focusing on helping young kids in Connecticut everywhere.

On March 3/3/22 Governor Ned Lemont was proposing legislation to strengthen Connecticut's standards on childhood lead poisoning. Governor Ned Lamont went to many schools, he should understand that we can't learn much from a school that is understaffed- and that we are in a school that isn't in the best condition.

Now I understand that he may or may not have had to experience this, but other people in Connecticut have!

If he took 713 million dollars out of the rainy day fund for schools in Connecticut who need it, it would help them and make them much better than they are now.

Problems schools suffer with is no security, staff shortage, withered buildings, and transportation issues. In my school I can vouch for staff shortage. One of the teachers at my school has had to work as the algebra teacher, chemistry teacher, and be the principal. If we got more funding our school would have necessary staff.

Thank you for having me and listening to my piece, I hope that you can take my reasoning and explanation into consideration.

Respectfully,

John Awad- Student

The Bridge Academy Public Charter School